

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the final Office Action dated October 3, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment and favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-10, 12-15, 18-23, 39 and 41 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-10, 12-15, 18-23, 39 and 41 have been allowed. Claims 33 and 38 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over US Patent No. 5,519,751 (Yamamoto). Claims 34-36 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Yamamoto, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,636,581 (Sorenson). Claim 37 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Yamamoto, in view of US Patent No. 3,775,612 (Foster). Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the claims.

Claims 33-38 are cancelled above to expedite prosecution of this case. However, Applicants do not concur with the Examiner's reasoning for rejecting Claims 33-38 and maintain their position as presented in the earlier amendments and responses.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims 1, 3, 4, 8-10, 12-15, 18-23, 39 and 41 are in condition for allowance.

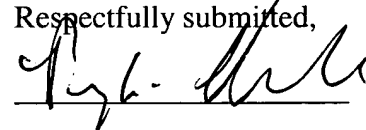
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Amendment and any other fees applicable to this application to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 07-0868.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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